For Library use.

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT.

Annual Reports

For the Year 1920,

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

H. STAINER BAKER,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

AND OF THE

Sanitary Inspector,

FREDERICK S. F. PIPER,

M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

RUSHDEN :

J. F. COOK, PRINTER, CHURCH STREET.

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT.

Chairman of Council :
Councillor JOHN CLARIDGE, J.P.

Chairman of Health and Sanitary Committee :
Councillor W. BAZELEY, J.P.

Members of Health and Sanitary Committee :
Councillor J. CLARIDGE. Councillor F. KNIGHT, J.P.
„ C. BATES, J.P. „ J. HORNSBY.
Councillor J. TOMLIN.

Medical Officer of Health :
H. STAINER BAKER, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Sanitary Inspector :
FREDERICK S. F. PIPER, M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.

SUMMARY.

AREA	3,777 Acres.
POPULATION CENSUS—1891	7,442
„ „ 1901	12,447
„ „ 1911	13,354
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES ..	2,988

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTH RATE PER 1,000 LIVING	22·77
DEATH-RATE „ „ „	9 23
INFANTILE MORTALITY PER 1,000 BIRTHS	73·17

WATER SUPPLY	HIGHAM FERRERS AND RUSHDEN WATER BOARD.
SEWERAGE	SEPARATE SYSTEM.
SEWAGE DISPOSAL	~~CHEMICAL PRECIPITATION FOLLOWED BY LAND TREATMENT.~~ Sedimentation tanks and double & filtration

URBAN DISTRICT OF RUSHDEN.

STATISTICAL MEMORANDA, 1920.

SITUATION.

Latitude, 52° 17′ N.—Longitude, 0° 36′ W.

AREA.

3777 acres.

GEOLOGICAL FORMATION.

Limestone, Sand, and Clay.

ELEVATION OF AREA.

150 feet to 300 feet.

POPULATION.

Census, 1911—13,354.

Estimated to middle of June, 1920—14402.

NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES.

Census, 1911—2863.

June, 1920—2988.

RAINFALL.

18·74. Below average.

WATER SUPPLY.

Constant Service.

SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

By water carriage for the most part.

BIRTH RATE.

22·77 per 1000.

DEATH RATE.

9·23 per 1000.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

73·17 per 1000 births.

PHTHISIS DEATH RATE.

·97 per 1000.

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

To the CHAIRMAN and COUNCILLORS

of the

URBAN DISTRICT OF RUSHDEN.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit to you the Annual Report concerning the Public Health of the district under your administration for the year 1920.

I follow as near as possible the outline contained in the Memorandum issued by the Ministry of Health to Medical Officers of Health.

Natural Social Conditions of the District.

Population.

Census 1911, 13,354.

Estimated to middle of June, 1920, Somerset House, 14,402.

The Rushden Urban District is situated close to and about the centre of the Eastern boundary of the County of Northampton, wholly within that boundary, but coterminous on its Southern and South Western limits with the County of Bedfordshire.

The surface of the district is undulating, and extends about 5 miles from North to South, and about 3 miles from East to West ; comprising a superficial area of 3,777 acres. A brook runs through the inhabited area from South to North, eventually finding its way to the river Nene ; it is open in parts, but closed in by culverts wherever it is necessary to carry the roads and footpaths across it ; the bed is bricked, thus rendering it more easy of cleaning.

The High Street, divided at the church into a North and South portion, follows mainly the course of the brook and from this thoroughfare the streets on the Eastern side rise by more or less steep gradients ; while on the Western side they dip slightly at first to rise eventually to the Wellingborough Road plateau.

Before the advent of heavy Motor traffic the surface of the High Street and other main roads were kept in excellent condition ; since the advent of the motor bus and other heavy traffic, and the unavoidable scant attention received during the War period, the same cannot be said of them, although

they compare favourably with some of the roads in neighbouring districts. Those of us, who for our sins, or otherwise, are condemned to use them are hoping under the newly instituted Ministry of Transport that they will soon return to their former even and cleanly surface.

There are no natural mineral products beyond clay for brick making, sand for building purposes and a little limestone which is quarried for use as a flux in the neighbouring iron furnaces. Ironstone is plentiful in some of the neighbouring districts.

The grass lands known as "The Meadows," situated on the Northern boundary formed by the river Nene, are flooded largely in the rainy season by overflow from this slow running river, and form an admirable grazing ground for cattle or for the raising of plentiful crops of hay.

Several portions of the district are set apart as allotments for the use of the inhabitants, and are put to very good use by those who are willing and anxious to put their spare time to a productive, profitable and healthy use ; these, though numerous, might be largely added to, with acquisition to the health and the saving of the pockets of a large portion of the community.

The remainder of the area not built upon is used for the usual agricultural purposes ; there being no waste or unproductive land in the district worth speaking about.

Social Conditions.

The inhabitants of the district are almost all connected with the manufacture of boots and shoes, and the contingent industries allied thereto, with the usual proportion occupied in the building, maintenance, and repair of property, both public and private ; a relatively small proportion being engaged in agriculture and the necessary retail trade for the supply of the district.

During the War period the products of the industry coming under the category of "Munitions," work was plentiful and labour relatively scarce, so that as in other industrial districts where "Munitions" were manufactured a large number of women or ("ladies" if they prefer) were absorbed into men's departments and large amounts as wages were going into many households ; not so much as far as my observations went, increasing the standard of living, but certainly raising the standard of spending, both actually and relatively to cost of living.

At the present time the shoe trade is feeling "the draught" that is common to most other industries, and unemployment and under employment are rife, and many there be who wish

they had remembered adversity in the days of their prosperity ; but human nature remains much about the same as it did at the dawn of history and judging by inference before, it may clothe its body more or less, cook food differently, use a knife and fork, talk more about ideals and make more specious promises ; but it has not attained to great wisdom, that is speaking collectively. Knowledge has outrun wisdom and "man never is but always to be blest." Too often losing the substance in straining after the shadow.

Population, etc.

The population at the census of 1911, was returned as being 13,354, to which it had rapidly risen in less than half a century, from a large village of about 2,000 inhabitants. Kelly's Directory still speaks of it as a "village" in contradistinction to the neighbouring "Borough" of Higham Ferrers with about a fifth of the population. Life is full of such little ironies. It has not increased in quite the same ratio in the last decade, but is still steadily if slowly increasing.

The population is for the most part a stationary one. There are interchanges between it and the neighbouring districts, but the larger portion of it is a settled one ; the increases taking place by a natural increase of this part of it also by imigration from surrounding districts and villages. Apart from those concerned in and engaged in the staple industry, private residents are few and these mostly have local connections.

The town was governed by a Local Board of Health from March 25th, 1891, until under the provisions of the Local Government Act of 1894, an Urban District Council was established.

New Council Buildings were erected in Newton Road in 1906. Adjoining this is the Carnegie Free Library, erected in 1905, at a cost of £3,000, of which, £2,500 was given by the late Mr. Andrew Carnegie. The Fire Station, also in Newton Road, was built in 1902. In juxta-position to this are the Councils' yards, Stables, Garage, and Storehouses.

The register of Baptisms of the Parish Church of St. Mary's, dates from 1598, that of Marriages and Burials from 1559.

Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

Water Supply.

At one time a cause for concern to those responsible for the sanitary well-being of the district, there is now an abundant and never failing supply of excellent water for domestic, sanitary and industrial purposes.

From the Water Works at Sywell, which were completed and opened in 1906, after an expenditure of about £100,000, situated about 11 miles from the town of Rushden, a constant and unlimited service is maintained to nearly all houses within reach of the mains. The nature of the gathering ground consists of a pasture, arable and woodland, comprising an area of about 1,747 acres. The total estimated quantity available from this source is approximately 745,000 gallons per day. The area of the land fenced at Sywell is a little over 133 acres. Of this the storage reservoir occupies about 68½ acres when full, having a capacity of 236,000,000 gallons. There are 3 filters with a total area of 1,970 yards, and a covered in clear water tank with a capacity of 144,000 gallons. The Pumping Station is situated within the grounds as are dwelling houses for the employees.

From the Sywell reservoir the water is pumped to the main service reservoir situated on the Bedford Road about 1½ miles south of the town. This has a capacity of 826,426 gallons, and the top water level is 338·5 ft. above Ordnance Datum. The smaller reservoir situated on the Wymington Road, is the original reservoir of the Rushden Local Board. From these reservoirs the water is delivered under good pressure to the Rushden Urban District and the Borough of Higham Ferrers ; members of these Local Authorities constituting the Joint Water Board. The neighbouring townships are also supplied from the same source of supply at Sywell ; Earls Barton, Wollaston, Wymington, Irchester, and Mears Ashby.

No Chemical or Bacteriological examination has been made of the water since 1914. The report then supplied, indicated that the water was of excellent quality, fit for drinking and other domestic purposes, and of a high degree of bacterial purity.

Having had experience of the town before this source of supply was inaugurated, the outlay has been in my opinion fully justified ; the sanitary condition of the town having improved in a very marked degree since a plentiful supply of good water has been available. Those wishing for further information regarding the supply should refer to the annual report of the Surveyer and Engineer, Mr. W. B. Madin.

Rivers and Streams.

The river Nene forms the boundary of the district on the North. Into this falls "The Brook," which runs through the centre of the town ; this is open in places, but the bed is bricked throughout the inhabited portion of the town, which renders the periodical cleansing more easy and enables it to be kept in good order so that there is nothing to complain of

with regard to it from a sanitary and public health point of view.

Drainage and Sewage.

The water carriage system is universal, except in the outlying farms and tenements where the water mains and sewers do not reach. In these places the pail system is in force, or as in two or three premises cesspools exist which are periodically emptied.

Disposal of Sewage.

The town is sewered on the "Partially Separate" system. The configuration of the district necessitated two outfall sewers ; one 18 inches in diameter and the other 12 inches ; both gravitating to the sight of the works. These are situated on the North-west of the town about a mile from the centre, that being the lowest available land not liable to flood. The works are designed to deal with an amount of Sewage for a population of 15,500.

The outfall from the two sewers passes through two Detritus Tanks in which two sets of screens are provided after which it flows along a channel to the Sedimentation Tanks ; one side of which channel forms a weir fixed at such a level that in storm times, when the flood exceeds three times the dry weather flow, the excess water will pass into a channel leading to special "Stand by" water tanks. Three tanks with an "Upward flow" are provided, the total tank capacity being 171,500 gallons, and are designed to work in parallel. The tank effluent passes through an open carrier to the "Dosing Tanks" which supply the Primary Filters.

There are eight Percolating Filters arranged as primary and secondary filters. The filtering medium is a slag of "coarse medium" gauge, the secondary filters being filled with boiler clinker. The effluent from the primary filters passes into two "upward flow" circular sediment tanks, with Dosing valves for the secondary filters. The small quantity of "humus" collected in these tanks is dealt with on land by gravitation.

The effluent from the secondary filters flows to two final "humus" tanks with a capacity of 24,000 gallons, passing through 18 inch pipes direct to "the brook" which flows past the works, finally reaching the river Nene. The sludge from the Detritus Tanks, Sedimentation Tanks and Storm Water Tanks is collected in a sludge Man Hole and is pumped to prepared sludge drying beds or into land, and is dug in as found desirable. The foregoing items are as contained in the

last printed report, and were furnished by Mr. W. B. Madin, the Surveyor and Engineer to the Urban District Council.

Closet Accommodation.

This is entirely of the water closet variety, is sufficient, efficient, and works with few defects, any complaint arising and notified to the Inspector of Nuisances quickly receive attention and are promptly rectified.

Scavenging.

Household refuse is disposed of by Refuse Tips, these being two in number, one situated on the North side of the Town on the Wellingborough Road, the other being some distance out at the opposite side of the Town on the Newton Road.

Collection of refuse at the present time is made by two open carts. In the latter part of 1919, an electric trolly, suitably enclosed for its work was provided ; this at first worked well, but latterly frequent breakdowns have led to disappointment in its use, the hard haulage work at the tips bringing about its "debacle," but as far as collecting in the town went, it was a success and a great improvement on the primitive open carts now in use, from which it is no uncommon thing to see refuse blewn into the faces of pedestrians, and into butchers', bakers' and other carts ; suitable coverings are provided to cover the refuse when the vehicle is full, it is in the emptying of the household receptacles into it where the lighter portion of the refuse takes unto itself wings. The collection is made once weekly when things are going smoothly.

At most of the houses, galvanized iron sanitary ashbins with loose covers are provided by the owners. Seventy-five houses have been provided with ashbins of this type during 1920.

Sanitary Inspection of the District.

A detailed statement dealing with this matter will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report, with the required Tables appended, together with an account as to number and character of premises and occupations which can be controlled by Bye-laws or Regulations.

Schools.

The schools are modern buildings in good sanitary condition and plentiful water supply, with the exception of the Church of England Schools in High Street South ; negotiations with the County Educational Authority are, I believe, in progress at the present moment with regard to these. The accommo-

dation in all the others is sufficient and satisfactory. No open air classes have been instituted up to the present time, nor do I think such is desirable unless completely suitable buildings that can be arranged according to weather conditions are provided. The number of days in which it is suitable for children to be exposed to completely open air conditions in this climate unprotected from weather are not very many after all, and the open air fetish, desirable as it may be, is often carried to extremes, the reverse of beneficial.

Any case of infectious disease occurring amongst the scholars are of course at once excluded and isolated as far as possible, and any members of the same family living in the same house are excluded likewise. There being no public isolation institution provided, isolation is not as ideal as it might be ; but in comparing the incidence of epidemics and the number of cases arising during these, there seems but little difference between those places where there are Isolation Hospitals and those where there are not. I am not advocating indifference with regard to isolation, but merely pointing out the fact so far as it appears evident to me.

The scholars are examined periodically by a School Medical Officer of the County Education Authority with more or less benefit to themselves. In the case of physical defects that can be remedied by carrying treatment to its logical issue where it is possible, the result is distinctly good. In other cases where opinion and experience pertain, the result is sometimes equivocal. In the main the bulk of the scholars are well cared for, being well nourished, well clothed and kept clean.

So much for the buildings and the bodies of the scholars. " What of the result of their attendance, with its effect upon human morals, manners, and mind ? " He (or she) is a self complacent individual who can look around with the scales removed from his eyes and feel that he can be reasonably satisfied. If, as is sometimes said, disappointment is responsible for all the hope in the world ; then we ought to be brimful of hope for the future. I am of the opinion, that if more of character and less of cupidity were instilled into the youthful mind, if the riches of the mind were more in the limelight than the riches of the purse, this would be a happier, saner, and more contented world, and the great efforts that are made, would have a more prolific and profitable harvest, more worthy of the expenditure and effort made. A sound, well-equipped, well-balanced mind in a healthy body is the best fortune a human being can have ; and this is to be had for the taking by most of us if we have the will, but to attain it, most efforts after all must be individual ; a man may starve in a land of plenty if he will not help himself.

Milk Supply.

Generally speaking, as milk supplies go, that of the district as regards quantity and quality, may be considered satisfactory. But in common with most other districts, its methods of collection and distribution could be greatly improved upon. The cowsheds, dairies and milkshops, are periodically inspected, and in the main there is little to complain of within what is customary. It seems to break in very slowly upon the intelligence of the average owner of cows and domestic animals generally, that sanitation is equally important for them as it is for man himself. Fresh air, cleanliness, good and sufficient (not excess of) food, space for excercise, etc., will produce a better result than where all these are at a minimum.

Details as to administration of the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders, may be noted in the Sanitary Inspector's Report.

Milk (Mothers and Children) Order, 1919.

The Council have not found it necessary to take any action under the Order.

Food and Drugs Act.

Samples taken in Rushden Urban District, 1920.

Number and kind of samples purchased.	Result of Analysis.	Prosecutions and results.
15 ...	13. Genuine ...	
	1. 29% added water.	Fined £5
	1. 14% „ „	„ £1
1 Skimmed Milk	Genuine ...	...

Meat.

Frequent inspections by the Sanitary Inspector are made of the carcases after slaughter, and in any case of doubt he has made reference to me. The total amount of meat and other foods seized and surrendered since the 1st April, 1920, totals 7 cwts. : 0 qrs. : 10¼ lbs. Three slaughter-houses were found dirty, and these were cleansed. Other nuisances such as dirty machines, benches, etc., were found in five instances, stale meat in one instance; the machines and benches were cleansed, and the stale meat condemned.

The arrangements for inspecting slaughter-houses in the absence of a public abattoir entail a great deal of energy on the part of the Sanitary Inspector, and take up a great deal of his time, as the slaughter-houses are widely distributed. A central abattoir would conserve a great deal of time and ensure a more searching inspection than is possible under

existing conditions ; though it is as thorough as it can be at that.

Number of Carcases or parts of Carcases condemned for Tuberculosis :

Whole Carcases			Nil.
Parts of Carcases.	*cwt.*	*qrs.*	*lbs.*
One set of Calf's lungs ...			6
Three heads of Pigs ...		2	8½
Two forequarters of Pig ...	1	0	14
Organs		1	10
Two heads of Oxen ...		1	20
Lungs			9
Pieces of Beef			8
Total ...	2	2	19½

One prosecution was instituted for slaughtering on unlicensed premises, and the delinquent fined £2-2-0 and £5-5-0 costs.

No prosecutions for exposure and sale of unsound meat took place.

The sanitary condition of bakehouses and other premises where foods are manufactured, prepared, stored or exposed for sale were found generally in reasonable, satisfactory state. Three bakehouses were cleansed. The details concerning the inspection of these are embodied in the Sanitary Inspector's Report ; it is hardly necessary to duplicate them here.

No cases of what could be called food poisoning came under my observation during the year.

Prevalence and Control over Infectious Diseases.

The total number of cases of Infectious Disease coming under the compulsory notification clauses total in all 63, including those of Tuberculosis, but not those of Measles, as this has been expunged from the list of notifiable diseases, and so far as my personal observation goes, if these had been included they would not have added greatly to the total.

The total is a drop from last year of nearly 100 %, of that for the year 1919 being 118, which was little more than half that for 1918, when 211 cases were notified, 278 in 1917, and 279 in 1916.

This is a very gratifying fall ; it would be a very difficult matter to point out with accuracy the particular causes contributing to this, but generally speaking it is most likely due to the improved conditions of living and a more rational conduct of life among those of susceptible age. This leaves

very much to be desired even as it is, but slow as the process is, one can mark a difference in comparing one decade with another, and is in my opinion more largely due to general Sanitary and Hygienic measures than to any other cause ; in other words preventive measures are more likely to have a successful and permanent effect than curative ones.

The following is the monthly Incidence of Infectious Diseases for the year :

	Diphtheria	Erysipelas	Scarlet Fever	Enteric Fever	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Pulmonary Tuberculosis	Other Tuberculous Diseases	Malaria	Total
Jan.	2	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	6
Feb.	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	3
Mar.	1	1	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	6
April	3	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	9
May	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	3
June	2	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	5
July	0	1	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	6
Aug.	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	6
Sept.	3	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	7
Oct.	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	4
Nov.	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Dec.	0	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	5
Totals	13	7	5	1	2	1	24	8	2	63

It will be seen from the Table that no undue incidence occurred at any one period of the year, but that the cases cropped up as sporadic ones without any semblance to an epidemic character. Under most of the headings there is a diminution compared with that of the previous year. The only increase being that under Erysipelas, which shows 7 cases as compared with 2 in 1919, but little or no importance is to be attached to this as Erysipelas is a disease of uncertain symptoms, and its notification depends largely on the view taken by the notifying practitioner.

There are 32 cases of Tuberculous disease notified, as against 37 in 1919 and 60 in 1918. A further comment on this will appear in a later paragraph.

Diphtheria is responsible for about the same number in 1920, 13 cases notified as against 14.

Only 5 cases of Scarlet Fever occur in the Table, and these were of a very mild character.

Malaria has two cases recorded, but this of course hardly represents the number of cases actually observed, as most of the cases in being have previously been notified.

The Council may be congratulated upon this small incidence of Infectious Disease, but it can hardly be expected that such can be continued in each successive year. I am not inferring that the incidence could not be lowered in an ideal world, but fortunately or unfortunately, according to the point of view, this is a real world, in which the dreams of the idealist vanish as dreams do ; every endeavour should be made by both public and individual effort to keep these diseases at a minimum, and because we have a favourable Table no effort should be spared to make it more favourable if in other years we show a record which may be better or not as good.

Diphtheria anti-toxin is supplied to practitioners free of charge by the Council, and is made use of in all cases which are proved of a positive nature.

Specimens submitted to Pathological Laboratory for examination were :

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Tubercle Bacilli ...	1	12	13
Diphtheria	3	5	8
Enteric Fever ...	1	0	1
	5	17	22

Tuberculosis. Prevalence and Control over.

It will be seen by examination of the totals in the monthly incidence table that 24 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 8 cases of other Tuberculosis Diseases were notified during the year. It is not claimed that this is a positive index of the number of cases occurring, but the notification list may be taken in each year as bearing a truly proportional relation to the number of cases arising. As will be seen from the number of reports from the Pathological Laboratories being mainly of a negative character, that a careful watch is being kept by practitioners for the early stages of this malady which is so insidious in its outset. The number of cases being notified, it is satisfactory to note, is decreasing more or less steadily each succeeding year. The number for 1920 being less by 5 than in 1919, and 28 than that of 1918, that year showing 60 cases, the heaviest for several years.

The Primary Notification Form A.

32. All forms of Tuberculosis.

Supplimentary Notification Form C.

Persons admitted to Sanatoria 6.

Form D. Persons discharged from Sanatoria 10.

The following table gives an analysis distinguishing age and sex.

		Under 1 year	1 to 5 yrs.	5 to 15 yrs.	15 to 25 yrs.	25 to 45 yrs.	45 to 65 yrs.	65 and upw.	All Ages
Pulmonary	Males	0	2	2	0	6	4	0	14
	Females	0	1	1	0	8	0	0	10
	Totals	0	3	3	0	14	4	0	24
Other Forms	Males	0	1	1	3	1	0	0	6
	Females	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
	Totals	0	1	2	3	2	0	0	8

Deaths from Tuberculosis.

Pulmonary. Males 8. Females 6.
Tuberculous Meningitis. ... ,, 1. ,, 0.
Other Tuberculous Diseases. ... ,, 0. ,, 2.

It will thus be seen that 17 deaths were registered as occurring from Tubercular Diseases as the primary cause, not, be it noted that these were from the 32 notified ; some of these would be notified in previous years, some perhaps of long standing. The number compares unfavourably with 11 deaths registered in 1919, but the comparison of one year with the last is of little value whether up or down ; comparisons must be over a much wider range to get a true perspective. If this be done, I think it may be safely assumed that there is a steadily diminishing incidence in both the number of deaths and notifications. Not perhaps to the extent desired or in some directions as held forth. Any improvement under existing social conditions must needs be slow. It has been asked, that if as is said, this disease is curable, why not cured ? In my opinion, the answer is no conundrum ; it is because Society is not prepared to pay the price. I remarked last year that Tubercular Disease was never likely to be eradicated on sentimental lines. I am still of that opinion ; sentiment is a luxury, not a natural law or any other for that matter ; only in my opinion, by a close observation and observance of the laws of nature, is Tuberculosis as a whole to be overcome. Judged by human standards, nature's laws are not always sane and just, but the probability is, the error is in the standard. If in the animal world it is required to breed a non-tubercular strain, the sickly are segregated from the healthy and only the latter bred from.

No Tuberculosis Dispensary has yet been instituted in the district. Patients under the Tuberculosis Officer have to attend at Wellingborough Dispensary. So far as my observation goes, it is of doubtful advantage to them. When the Institution being slowly evolved upon the Wymington Road is in being, I am hoping that this may be obviated, this I hope, will be finished and in action before another report is due, when I shall be in a better position to comment upon it.

Maternity and Child Welfare.

The inspection of mid-wives is under the supervising authority of the County Council. So far as my personal observation goes, the work of the mid-wives is carried out in a satisfactory manner ; there being little to complain of. No general arrangements of a particular nature have as yet been instituted for attending to the health of expectant mothers, and children under 5 years of age.

It will be seen from the table of Infectious Diseases, that no case of Puerperal Fever was notified. That fact speaking for itself, that the attendance given in maternity cases was careful and sufficient.

The one case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum was mild in character and left no damage to structure or sight.

Sanitary Administration.

In the early part of the year the duties of Sanitary Inspector were carried out as they had been for the previous year or so, as a part time office by Mr. Lloyd, who fulfilled his function quite as well as possible in conjunction with his duties to other authorities.

Since April, when Mr. Piper was appointed to the office, the whole time of this officer has been applied to the work of the Coencil, and handicapped in some measure as he has been by having to reside in a neighbouring township owing to no dwelling house being available ; the duties pertaining to the office have been carried out in a highly efficient and satisfactory manner, never better since I have been an officer of the Council.

No Hospital accommodation is available for the isolation of Infectious Diseases, other than the Small-pox Hospital situated in the Bedford Road, and as I have previously intimated we have not seemed to suffer in consequence an undue incidence of these diseases as compared with places endowed with Isolation Buildings.

The chemical and bacteriological work required is now undertaken by the Pathological Department of the Northampton General Hospital. The results of examinations in this

direction are given elsewhere, as is the report of the Public Analyst.

Housing.

The number of houses occupied up to the end of December, 1920, total 2,988 approximately.

The number in course of erection on the Council's Building Estate on the Newton Road on the same date was 80 ; of this number 12 are already occupied, and a further number are nearly ready for occupation.

When those in course of erection are complete and occupied, the shortage of houses as it existed will be somewhat ameliorated, though there will be still a number of dwellings where two or more families are in occupation. Not to the extent of overcrowding, this in its true sense exists only in isolated cases, but when families are duplicated, or triplicated, due regard cannot be given to general sanitary and hygienic conditions such as can be attained when one family only occupies a house.

The new houses are not to me remarkable for their roominess, but I suppose that under existing conditions they are the best that can be produced with a due regard to primary cost, and being let at a rent that is reasonable but can hardly be remunerative. So far as I have been able to inspect them on completion, they should be convenient if small. The houses having been provided, it is for the tenants to make them " Homes."

The standard of housing in the town one can class generally as good. As in all human communities, there are those who would turn a paradise into its antithesis, but in the main the properties are well maintained and the homes kept clean, neat and in a number of instances artistic, and these latter by no means the houses where the largest incomes are in being.

Action taken as regards unfit houses will be found in the Sanitary Inspector's report.

There are no Common Lodging Houses now existing.

Vital Statistics.

Local Birth Rate.

The total number of Births for the district as returned from the office of the Registrar General for the year was 328, of which 179 were males and 149 females ; the males, it will be noted, preponderating, just why I do not attempt to explain, as like the rest of mankind I do not know.

The number is a marked increase over that of 1919, when only 206 were registered. This will gladden the hearts of those who measure the welfare of a community by the number

of its heads, rather than by their capacity. In 1918, the total number was only 185.

The rate per thousand in a population estimated at 14,402 is thus seen to be 22·77 against 14·27 for 1919, this of course increasing in a corresponding ratio to the number of births as the population has remained about stationary, though the official estimate is slightly under that for 1919, viz., 14,428. The coming census will correct any errors.

The birth rate for the whole of England and Wales in the corresponding period was 25·4, against 18·5 for 1919, so that we are still below the general average, and that in a population that is on the young side, and lower still if compared with that of a quarter of a century ago. It would be futile to enlarge on the probable reasons for this, and would not be likely to fulfil any useful purpose, but generally it may be assumed that family ties interfere largely with the personal pleasures of the parents, and there is not that desire for and contentment with home life that pertained in "the good old times," if they were good by comparison.

The satisfaction got out of life is largely a matter of mind, and one time is much the same as another, if by what it is customary to call the advance of civilization we gain in one direction nature balances this in another.

Five of the births were illegitimate, all of them males.

Local Death Rate.

The total number of deaths credited to the District by the Registrar General was 133, the number according to the local Registrar being 132, so that there is only a discrepancy of one. Of these 73 were males and 60 females.

One hundred and seventeen (117) actually occurred in the district. Sixteen taking place in institutions away, but being transferred to us, as being ordinarily resident in the Council's area.

The number compares favourably with the previous year when 153 deaths were registered as does the rate per 1,000 of the population, viz ; 9·23 with that of 11·02 for 1919.

Infant Mortality.

This is the rate of deaths per 1,000 of infants born, occurring under one year of age. The total number was 24, giving a mortality rate of 73·17, a considerable decrease on 1919, when the rate was 131.

Of this number, 8 may be put under the heading of preventable causes. The remaining 16 were due to prematurity, to congenital malformation or primary lack of vitality, so that their demise may not be unduly deplored.

With efficient anti-natal conditions prevailing, these 16 might have been reduced in number, but there is always likely to be a residium of mortality among infants that no care or anti-natal precautions can altogether wipe out.

The following are the causes as supplied from the Official Registry :

	Males	Females
Enteric Fever	0	0
Small Pox	0	0
Measles	2	0
Scarlet Fever	0	0
Whooping Cough	1	2
Dihptheria and Croup ...	1	0
Influenza	1	2
Erysipelas	0	0
Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	8	6
Tuberculous Meningitis .	1	0
Other Tuberculous Diseases ...	0	2
Cancer and Malignant Disease	6	13
Rheumatic Fever	0	1
Meningitis	1	1
Oganic Heart Disease ...	7	9
Bronchitis	3	0
Pneumonia (all forms) ...	2	2
Other Respiratory Diseases ...	1	0
Diarrhœa (under 2 years) ..	1	1
Congenital Debility .	6	6
Violence apart from Suicide ...	2	0
Suicide	1	1
Other defined diseases ...	27	13
Cause ill-defined or unknown ...	2	1
Totals ...	73	60

Analysis of this table reveals that 9 deaths apart from Tuberculous Disease, were due to the acute Infective Fevers, a sufficiently low rate compared with other years and other districts to be considered satisfactory. But from another point of view, as these diseases may be considered preventable, even this low rate is a reflection upon our conduct of life generally, both public and private. The ideal sanitary and hygienic state is hardly, however, likely to arrive, let us be satisfied to keep the incidence of these diseases as low as we can in consonance with prevailing conditions.

As previously recorded, 17 deaths occurred from Tuberculous Disease, giving a mortality rate of 1·11 per 1,000 of the population.

The largest mortality rate higher than that from Tuberculosis comes under the general heading of Malignant

Disease, including Cancer. The number, 20 in all, is an increase of 6 over that of 1919, when 14 deaths occurred, showing a mortality rate of 1·39 per 1,000. There is not much to be gained by speculating on the possible causes of the relative incidence of these maladies, at the present time little is known as to their causation, all the causes assigned for it in popular estimation are purely speculative and have no foundation in established fact.

Sixteen deaths are assigned to Organic Heart Disease. This is another field in which modern views and research are modifying the views held for a long period unquestioned.

Bronchitis, Pneumonia, and all other Respiratory Diseases account for only 8 deaths in all, a remarkably low rate, due no doubt to the absence of any severe Influenza epidemic and the general mildness of the winter season. That hard severe frosty weather that is generally accounted so " Healthy," has more sins to answer for than is generally recognised ; if it is healthy it generally raises the death rate from respiratory diseases.

No other group in the Table calls for special comments.

DEATHS AT ALL AGES DURING 1920.

Under 1 year	1 to 2 yrs.	2 to 5 yrs.	5 to 15 yrs.	15 to 25 yrs.	25 to 45 yrs.	45 to 65 yrs.	65 yrs. & over	Total
24	1	7	1	7	22	29	41	132

This is compiled from the Local Register and shows a total of one less than that coming from the Registrar's Office.

The largest number of deaths it will be noted occurred at the extreme ends of the scale. The total number of deaths between the ages of 1 year to 45 years not reaching that of those occurring over 65 years of age, so that if an infant survives the first year of its existence it has more than an even chance of attaining a reasonably mature age. Considering what after all a frail organism the human body is, and what a little it takes to stop the mechanism, and the way in which man handicaps himself from the cradle to the grave in the conduct of his life generally, the wonder after all is that not that a few die but that so many live.

In passing the foregoing facts under review and comparing them with conditions existing in previous times, the Council may be reasonably satisfied that in regard to sanitation and hygienic conditions that progress, if not all that is desired, is in the right direction ; it must of necessity be slow as mankind is conservative, taken as individual units, whatever he may label himself politically or socially, and the trend of the

times seems to be to desire to make the pace of advance that of the slowest units, although it is expected to attain the same results as if an average pace of all was struck.

So far as my personal observation goes in an industrial practice of 30 years, the general well-being of the community has materially improved in a physical direction, more I think from improvement in preventive measures than from individual effort. I mean from improved water supply, drainage, housing, inspection of food and general hygienic efforts. Whether the same can be said of the mind and intellect, tending to increase the sum of human happiness, is open to doubt. If love of and pursuit of pleasure be synonymous with happiness, then there is no doubt that it has considerably increased, but, "Is it?" Each must answer for himself according to his philosophy of life.

My best thanks are due to all the Members of the Council who have received any remarks I have found it necessary to make with courtesy and consideration. To all the Officers of the Council and especially to Mr. Piper, who naturally comes more in contact with me from an official point of view, who has fulfilled his not always pleasant duties with tact, ability, urbanity and marked efficiency.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

H. STAINER BAKER,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.,

Medical Officer of Health.

SUMMARY OF VETERINARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

	3 months ending 31st Mar.	3 months ending 28th June	3 months ending 10th Sept.	3 months ending 11th Dec.
Premises Inspected ..	31	31	29	29
Milch Cows and Heifers Inspected	183	180	178	178
Cows with atrophied quarter	3	2	2	3
Cows with acute Mastitis (temporary) ..	1	2	1	-
Cows emaciated ..	1	-	-	-

SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

To the CHAIRMAN and MEMBERS

of the

RUSHDEN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit my first Annual Report of the work carried out by my department since you honoured me with the appointment as your Sanitary Inspector, on the 1st April of this year.

From the tables given in the appendix, it will be seen that a very satisfactory result has been obtained during the first 9 months of my office, and I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Council, for their co-operation and support, also the other Officers of the Council for their assistance when the necessity has arisen.

It is very gratifying to me, to state that it was only necessary to serve 1 Statutory Notice under the Public Health Acts, against 169 Preliminary Notices ; showing that those who were at fault, were quite ready to comply with my requirements. Practically in each case, the services of a builder or plumber has been requisite, who in turn has often found some difficulty through shortage of labour and material in carrying out the work at once, but in every case I must thank those concerned for their ready attention.

Of the 169 Preliminary Notices served, 136 had been complied with at the end of the year, the remainder, I am given to understand are receiving attention.

Unfortunately I found it necessary to serve 15 cautionary letters, which in the majority of cases I have been informed, my previous letter had escaped attention.

There was not one instance where the Council found it necessary to take legal proceedings to obtain the abatement of a nuisance.

In carrying out the work of the department, a considerable amount of clerical work has been involved, which, together with the large number of inspections and secondary visits, made the work most strenuous at times, but the results have been most satisfactory.

A Tabular Statement of the inspections and visits appears at the end of the Report.

It will be seen that a total of 1,247 visits were made ; principal of which being 275 visits to slaughter-houses and other food premises. A Tabular Statement of butcher's meat and other foods which were found to be unfit for the food of man will be found in the paragraphs of this report which deals with the matter exclusively. Other important items being the 122 complaints received *(the informants of the nuisances having the strict confidence of the department, so as to avoid any friction and at the same time to receive the benefit of Sanitary Law. Each case had immediate attention, and in the main were of a very serious nature)*, the 18 houses where it was found necessary to apply the Smoke Test to the drains and sanitary fittings, the 35 inspections of Factories, 40 inspections of Workshops and workplaces, and the 11 inspections of Outworkers premises.

It will also be seen that the Water Test was applied to repaired portions of new lines of drains 9 times *(this is essential in view of the fact that drains are intended to hold water and therefore should be tested by the same medium)*. In 4 instances the water test was impossible and the smoke test was applied. With regard to the secondary visits, or repetition work, 497 visits were made.

With respect to the Sanitary improvements carried out under notice and voluntarily, it will be seen that 7 new lines of drains were laid ; 3 partly relaid and 15 lines of drains repaired ; upon which 3 new inspection chambers were constructed, and 8 repaired. Six portable iron covers were fitted to inspection chambers in place of broken stone and iron covers. Unfortunately 32 obstructions occurred in existing drains which one can infer were largely due to inadequate attention to the most vital part of the premises. Another important item, although not large in extent, was the removal of 5 broken W.C. pans and traps and the fixing of new C.C. pattern washdown pans and traps.

In addition to the above, 7 new W.C's. were constructed and fitted with pedestal wash-down pans and traps with flushing cisterns, and the Council's water supply laid on. In 4 of the cases new soil and ventilation pipes had to be fixed owing to the W.C's. being constructed on the first floor of the house.

In one instance an obsolete pail closet was found at a house where 3 cases of Diphtheria occurred. The pail closet was at once removed, and a new W.C. erected containing a pedestal wash-down pan and trap, with flushing cistern and the Council's water supply laid on. At the present time the district is practically immune from this type of closet.

Another important factor was the stripping, repairing, and cleansing of 68 rooms. Whilst dealing with this item, I

should like to say that every consideration was shown to the responsible persons, owing to the high cost of labour and materials, and in each case in my opinion, the health of the occupiers were at stake.

Two houses were provided with the Town's water supply in place of a polluted supply of water from an adjacent well. Upon an examination being made of the water, it was found to be positively contaminated ; the well was in land which is frequently manured, and was in close proximity to the drains of the house. At the close of the year, 6 others were under notice, the result of which will be carried forward to next year's report. Although I have not any records in the office at the moment, showing the number of houses in the district with a suspicious supply of water, for domestic or dietetic use, I venture to suggest the number is very small, these, I hope will soon claim my attention.

On the 12th May, the Council instructed me to inspect from time to time, areas containing dwelling houses, respecting the provision of proper receptacles for house refuse and up to the end of the year 135 houses had been inspected, of which number 75 houses have been provided with a proper galvanised iron sanitary ash-bin.

During my inspection in the first instance only apologies to ash-bins were found, and in some cases there were no provision whatever, but I can now safely say, that in the outstanding cases the matter is receiving attention and had it not been for the excessive cost of the article (i.e., approximately 5 times the pre-war cost) and the present delay in delivery of the article, practically the whole of the houses would have been supplied at the end of the year.

It is most essential that every house should be provided with a proper sanitary ash-bin as it facilitates the scavenging of the town. In confirmation of this, I found it necessary to serve notices calling attention to accumulations of house refuse, etc., in 11 cases.

Summarising the Appendix, it will be seen that 535 separate defects were remedied under the several Acts of Parliament, of which number 376 were under the Public Health Acts, and 159 under the Housing Town Planning, etc., Act. A detailed statement of these numbers being found in the Appendix.

As respects the sanitation of the Schools, there is one instance where a notice has been served, and which undoubtedly will be complied with in due course.

Housing Town Planning, etc., Acts.

Under these Acts, 56 houses were inspected and the full number of notices were served on the owners and agents for

the property. This is an addition to the large number of houses inspected arising out of cases of Infectious Disease, etc.; and the 6 houses shown in the Tabular Statement at the end of the report.

It will be seen that a total of 159 defects were remedied from the time I took over the duties as Sanitary Inspector on the 1st April, and at the close of the year there was still a considerable amount of work which was in progress and in other cases being put in hand. The defects in the latter cases will be included in the Annual Report for 1921.

Some of the houses were found to be so old and in such a defective and obsolete condition as to warrant Closing Orders, but the Committee who dealt with the matter felt that, owing to the present shortage of houses the property in question should be repaired and made inhabitable as far as possible.

The particulars of the defects found will be sent to the owner.

When more houses are available, my activities under these Acts will be extended.

There is still a crying need of houses, verified by the number of complaints I have received and information to hand regarding overcrowding ; which will be overcome in due course by the Council's Housing Scheme which is now in progress, and if circumstances permit by private enterprise.

Infectious Diseases and Disinfection.

In every case, upon notification of a case of an infectious disease, I have immediately visited the house and obtained particulars with respect to other children in the house attending schools, means of isolation, the condition of the house and surroundings, and other adjacent premises. Attention has been given to the probable source of infection, and steps taken at once to prevent a recurrence. The other occupants have been advised as to the use of disinfectants, the exclusion of visitors, and the exclusion of the remaining occupants from the patient's room. It is a great pity the majority of people do not see the danger they encounter in ignoring this rule, as several repeat cases have occurred which leads one to think that a salutory effect would be obtained if the rule was adhered to.

It was found necessary to cause 13 infected rooms to be stripped, repaired and cleansed.

During the first few months of my office the bedding which a patient had been using was destroyed, and practically in every case compensation was allowed by the Council. Seeing this expenditure could be saved I made several experiments, and eventually was able to disinfect any reasonable amount of bedding and other articles, and return same to the owners

in the same condition as I received them within 24 hours. Twenty-two beds were disinfected by this means, thus effecting a saving of approximately £30, with no initial outlay. Undoubtedly the current year will show a much greater saving.

Articles Disinfected.

Beds	22
Articles of Bedding ...	9
Pillows	28
Bolsters	10
Books	13
Wearing Apparel	6
Other Articles	1
Total ...	89

Articles destroyed and Compensation given.

Beds	8

Articles destroyed upon request of Owners.

Beds	1
Pillows	4
Bolsters	2
Library Books	1
Bundles of infected rags ...	1
Sacks ot Flocks	2
Total ...	108

The following Table shows the number of rooms disinfected designating the respective infectious disease :

Disease.

	Rooms
Diphtheria	11
Scarlet Fever	5
Enteric Fever	1
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis ...	3
Erysipelas	7
Influenza	1
Pneumonia	1
Consumption	14
Cancer	5
Other Diseases	2
Total ...	50

Other Disinfections.

Vehicles		1
Sleeping Huts		1
	Total ...	2
Carried forward—		
Articles disinfected and destroyed		108
Rooms disinfected	...	50
	Grand Total ...	160

Factory and Workshops Acts.

From the 1st April, 75 inspections were made of factories, workshops and workplaces. At two of the factories it was found that a breach of The Sanitary Accommodation Order of 4th February, 1903, existed by the absence of a proper intervening air space to certain W.C's. On notice being given to the owners of the premises the work was put in hand at once, and in 1 instance at the end of the year the work was completed, and in the other case the matter was in hand ; instructions having been given to a builder to proceed with the work.

In two instances it was found necessary to cause proper screens to be fixed to the lavatories, in another instance the Escape in the case of Fire was found to be defective, and in the case of one workshop it was found necessary to cause the overcrowding to be abated.

In the other defects found, the majority consisted of dirty walls and ceilings of workshops and other minor defects.

One of the chief improvements was the laying on of a sufficient supply of drinking water at suitable points in two of the factories.

With respect to the Outworkers' premises it will be seen in Table 3 under the Factory and Workshops Acts that 74 lists were received containing the names of 361 Outworkers, of which number 29 were transferred to other districts owing to the outwork being done outside the district. This left 332 outworkers for this district, all of which unfortunately could not be visited through all other work being thrown upon my shoulders. Of this number 11 were inspected, of which number 4 premises were found to be in such a condition as to be injurious to the health of the workers. Notices were served upon the responsible persons, and in each case the premises were cleansed as soon as possible.

Bakehouses.

In Table 4, it will be seen that 10 workshop bakehouses are on the register, and generally have been kept in a cleanly state. Two or three still remain that are not on the register, and therefore have not been inspected, which is entirely due to pressure of other duties more important. These will come under supervision during the coming year.

Ten inspections were made and only in 3 instances notices to the occupiers to lime-wash the premises were served. These notices were complied with before many days had elapsed. Beyond this, no other serious defects existed.

The introduction of the Factories and Workshops (Bakehouses) Bill, by the Ministry of Health, in the near future, will undoubtedly be a beneficial project in this respect.

Milkshops.

Eight milkshops and dairies were inspected, and in one instance it was necessary to call the occupier's attention to the dirty condition of the milkstore, which was thoroughly cleansed and lime-washed as soon as possible.

It was also necessary in nearly every instance, to draw the retailer's attention to the vessels containing milk, being uncovered. In many instances, milk is sold from premises containing mixed commodities, such as potatoes and other vegetables, which give off dust and repugnant odours, and in view of the attractive powers of milk, it is essential that all vessels containing milk should be kept covered. As it is a great factor of our food supply, this practice should be rigidly exercised, helping to exclude external contamination.

There is much to be desired in amendments to the Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders of 1885 to 1895, and undoubtedly it will be to the advantage of all, when the Ministry of Health introduce the new Milk and Dairies Bill.

Ice Cream Premises.

Attention has been given to premises where this commodity is produced, and in one instance it was necessary to give notice to the occupiers of the premises, of the condition of the walls and ceilings of the room in which it is manufactured. This was remedied without demur. In another instance the premises were found to be unsuitable, under the existing circumstances, and improvement in that direction is now in progress.

Fried Fish Shops.

Attention has also been given to the premises where the

fish is prepared and cooked, and it is gratifying to say they have been kept clean. There has not been any complaints with respect to these premises.

Knackers Yard.

There is only one yard in this district, situated off Shirley Road. These are new premises and of modern construction. Each time I have visited same, I have found strict cleanliness being exercised. This procedure will give little room for complaint.

Van Dwellers.

Spencer Park, Washbrook Road, has been used during Feast Week, and I have inspected same from time to time, and found everything being done to prevent any infringement of the Byelaws, or other Acts in force. This town is somewhat fortunate over most towns, in having sanitary conveniences close at hand, for use of the van dwellers. Refuse receptacles have been provided by the proprietor, which have been emptied periodically by the Council's men.

Casual visitors, such as Showmen, etc., on other sites, have fallen in with every suggestion I have made, so as to avoid any nuisance.

Food Supply.

One of the most important of my obligations has been the inspection of premises where food is prepared or sold, but owing to the different times that slaughtering is carried out, it is not within reason to anticipate visiting the slaughter-houses each time slaughtering of animals is in progress, although at the same time I venture to suggest that not many occasions lack my presence. With reference to other premises where food is retailed only, I have visited them as occasion has required.

At the present time we have 6 slaughter-houses in the district which are now regularly used, and these have been lime-washed whenever necessary. It was in 3 instances where this procedure escaped attention, and at the end of the year slaughter-houses and premises attached, also premises where food is manufactured, were cleansed and lime-washed in 11 cases.

In accordance with the Memorandum received from the Ministry of Health respecting the 6 slaughter-houses in the district, 3 are quite satisfactory, but the remainder call for improvements ; 1 being obsolete and the others, whilst being of recent construction, lack two essential qualifications. These

deficiencies, we trust, will be overcome when the time is opportune to erect a Public Abbatoir and thus bring all the flesh portion of our food supply under strict supervision.

Tabular form of Slaughter-houses in use in the district at dates mentioned.

	Year 1914	Jan. 1920	Dec. 1920
Registered ...	3	3	3
Licensed ..	4	3	3
Totals	7	6	6

In further consideration of the Memorandum received, a separate list of meat seized and surrendered for tuberculosis is shown in addition to other diseased or unsound meat or other foods.

During the past nine months I have paid 275 visits to premises where food is prepared or sold, during which time I have found a total of 7 cwts. : 0 qrs. : 10¾ lbs. of meat and other foods which were diseased or unsound or unfit for the food of man. In strict accordance with the Public Health Acts, I caused same to be removed from the premises and to be destroyed so as to prevent it being used for food or exposed for sale.

The Council did not deem it necessary to take legal proceedings in any case where meat or other foods were found to be unfit for the food of man.

In one instance the Council found it necessary to take legal proceedings where an animal was found slaughtered and being dressed for the food of man on unlicensed premises, which resulted in the case being heard at the Wellingborough Police Court and a fine being imposed of £2-2-0 and £5-5-0 costs.

Number of Carcases or parts of Carcases condemned for Tuberculosis :

	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Whole Carcases ...		Nil.	
Parts of Carcases			
1 Set of Calf's Lungs ...			6
3 Heads of Pigs ...		2	8½
2 Forequarters of a Pig ...	1	0	14
Organs of same ...		1	10
2 Heads of Oxen ...		1	20
1 Set of Lungs of an Ox ...			9
Pieces of Beef ..			8
Total ...	2	2	19½

Meat and other foods surrendered or seized, other than for Tuberculosis, as being diseased or unfit for the food of man.

Butchers' Meat.

	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
1 Forequarter of a Calf ...		1	0
2 Heads of Pigs ...		1	10
2 Hind Legs of Sheep ...			10
2 Livers of Oxen and 1 part Liver ...		1	11¼
Quantity of Beef Joints and Sausages		2	9
1 Hind Leg of Calf and Flank			12
Miscellaneous Organs ...			12
Total ...	1	2	26¼

Other Foods.

	cwts.	qrs.	lbs.
Quantity of Smoked Bacon	1	0	0
1 to 3 lbs. Tins of Fruit	1	1	18
,, ,, ,, Vegetables			
1 lb. Tins of Fish ...			4
Bottled Vegetables ...			4
Parcel of Dates ...			23
Total ...	2	2	21

Grand Total : 7 cwts. 0 qrs. 10¾ lbs.

Storage of Petroleum.

In the early part of the year, 24 Licenses were issued as renewals and new Licenses for the storage of Petroleum and the storage of Carbide of Calcium.

Twenty-seven inspections were made of licensed premises, and any suggestion I made to lessen the risk of fire was immediately carried out by the owners or occupiers of the premises.

If all due precaution is taken with a properly constructed store, the same immunity from fire can be enjoyed with either a large or small quantity.

Whilst visiting unlicensed premises, any infringements of the Petroleum Acts, when pointed out, were at once remedied.

In 6 instances new sites have been inspected and advice given prior to stores being erected.

The following table summarises the work carried out.

Licenses Issued.

Petrol	15
Carbide of Calcium	9
New Petrol Stores erected ...	4

Inspections.

Petrol Stores	27
Premises where Petrol is kept ...	4
Proposed sites for Stores ...	6
Carbide of Calcium Stores ...	2
	39

Conclusion.

In bringing my comments and statistics to a close, I should once again like to thank the Council for the co-operation and support they have extended to me during this short period of office, the continuance of which, I hope, will be my pleasure to enjoy for many years to come.

I take this opportunity to express my appreciation and thanks to Dr. H. Stainer Baker, the Medical Officer of Health, for his untiring support and advice, also the impartial decisions when necessity has arisen.

Gentlemen, I am,

Your obedient servant,

FREDK. S. F. PIPER,
M.S.I.A., C.R.S.I.,
Sanitary Inspector.

Number and Description of Inspections made.

Zymotic Diseases.

Diphtheria	10
Consumption	8
Cerebro Spinal Meningitis	4
Scarlet Fever	5
Enteric Fever	1
Erysipelas	6
Malaria	2
Cancer	1
Small Pox Contacts	2

Factory and Workshops Acts.

Inspections of Factories	35
,, Workshops, Bakehouses and Work-places ...	40
,, Outworkers places ...	11

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Order.

Inspections of Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops	8

Food Premises.

Inspections of Slaughter-houses, Butchers Shops and other Food premises	275
,, Bakehouses (included in above)	10
,, Ice Cream premises ...	2

Public Health Acts.

Inspections of Dwelling Houses ...	6
,, Other premises	38
,, Knackers Yard	2
,, with respect to complaints received	122
,, with respect to the provision of Sanitary Ash-bins	135
Houses at which Smoke Test was applied to the drains ...	18
Houses at which Smoke Test was applied to drains by request	1
Number of times Water Test was applied to portion of drains	9
Number of times Smoke Test was applied to repaired portions of drains ...	4
Inspection of Fair Grounds, Washbrook Road	2

Under a circular letter from the Ministry of Health, dated 25th August, 1920.

Inspection of Theatres	2

Housing (additional) Powers Act.

Inspection of Houses, etc.	1
Secondary visits with respect to all the above Inspections	497
Total ...	1247

APPENDIX.

WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS.

Houses at which drains were partly relaid	3
Houses at which drains were repaired	15
Defective gullies removed and new glazed gullies fixed	3
New W.C's. constructed	1
Inspection chambers repaired	6
New iron covers fitted to chambers	3
Obstructions removed from drains	32
Wood floors and joints renewed	3
Quarried floors repaired	3
Quarried floors relaid	2
Dampness prevented	3
Walls repaired	11
Sink waste pipes repaired	3
Defective W.C. pans removed, and new pans and traps fixed	5
Houses provided with Town's water supply	2
Rooms stripped and cleansed	19
W.C's. cleansed and lime-washed	4
Outhouses cleansed	1
Plastered walls and ceilings repaired	4
Rain water gutters and pipes repaired	6
Rain water gutters fixed to buildings	1
Defective ceilings to rooms renewed	1
Defective ceilings to rooms repaired	2
Accumulations removed	10
Roofs repaired	4
Paving to yards repaired	1
Paving to yards relaid	3
Flushing cisterns fixed in W.C's.	2
Defective pail closets removed	1
Other Nuisances	35

Workshops.

Workshops cleansed	9
Ventilation provided	2
Overcrowding	1
Other Nuisances abated	17
Sanitary Accommodation improved ...	1
,, ,, made suitable and effective ...	19
,, ,, made suitable for sexes	1
Outworkers premises cleansed ...	4
Bakehouses cleansed and lime-washed ...	3

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops Orders.

Dairies cleansed	1

Slaughter-houses, etc.

Slaughter-houses and adjoining premises cleansed and lime-washed ...	3
Accumulations removed	1
Food premises cleansed	2
Other nuisances	5

House Refuse.

Houses provided with galvanized iron Sanitary Ash-bins	75
Total ...	333

WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE HOUSING TOWN PLANNING, ETC., ACTS.

Rooms stripped, repaired and cleansed ...	49
Ventilation provided for food-stores ...	7
Food-stores cleansed	6
Dilapidated walls repaired	3
Wood floors repaired	6
Windows repaired or made to open ...	10
Walls and ceilings repaired	15
Fireplaces repaired	6
Quarried floors repaired	4
Ventilation provided for bedrooms ...	4
Damp walls rendered dry	8
Roofs repaired	11
Rain water gutters repaired	12
Houses at which brick walls were repaired	11
Doors repaired	4
Other defects	3
Total ...	159

Voluntary Sanitary Improvements.

Pedestal wash-down pans with flushing cisterns fixed in W.C's.	6
Cubicles formed for W.C's.	1
Baths fixed	6
Lavatory basins fixed	6
Sinks fixed	2
Extra waste pipes provided	2
Glazed gullies fixed to drains	5
New lines of drains laid	7
Inspection chambers built	3
Inspection chambers repaired ...	2
Soil and ventilation pipes fixed ...	4
Total ...	43

Summary of Totals.

Work carried out under the Public Health Acts	333
Work carried out under the Housing Town Planning, etc., Acts	159
Voluntary improvements under the Public Health Acts	43
Grand Total ...	535

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES AND HOMEWORK.

1.—Inspection of Factories, Workshops & Workplaces.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	*Written Notices.*	*Prosecutions.*
Factories (including Factory Laundries)	35	18	—
Workshops (including Workshop Laundries)	39	23	—
Workplaces (other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	1	—	—
Total	75	41	—

2.—Defects found in Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

Particulars.	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	*Remedied*	*Referred to H.M. Inspector*	
*Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :-**				
Want of cleanliness	9	9	—	—
Want of ventilation	3	2	—	—
Overcrowding	1	1	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	25	17	—	—
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient	4	1	—	—
Unsuitable or defective	19	19	—	—
Not separate for sexes	1	1	—	—
Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100)	3	3	—	—
Other offences (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	—	—	—	—
Total	65	53	—	—

*Including those specified in sections 2, 3, 7 and 8 of the Factory and Workshop Act, 1901, as remediable under the Public Health Acts.

3.—HOME WORK.

NATURE OF WORK.	OUTWORKERS' LISTS, SECTION 107.									OUTWORK IN UNWHOLESOME PREMISES, SECTION 108.			OUTWORK IN INFECTED PREMISES, SECTIONS 109, 110		
	Lists received from Employers.						Notices served on Occupiers as to keeping or sending lists	Prosecutions.							
	Sending twice in year			Sending once in year											
	Lists	Outworkers		Lists	Outworkers			Failing to keep or permit inspection of lists	Failing to send lists	Instances	Notices served	Prosecutions	Instances	Orders made (s. 110)	Prosecutions (Sections 109, 110)
		Contractors	Workmen		Contractors	Workmen									
Wearing Apparel—making etc.	74	...	361	17	..	70	51	...	...	4	4	...	...	...	...

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.		*Number.*
Important classes of workshops, such as workshop bakehouses may be enumerated here.	Workshop Bakehouses	10
	Tailors	3
	Bootmakers	22
	Milliners and Dressmakers ...	7
	Cabinet Makers	1
	Miscellaneous	6
	Factories	44
	Total number of Workshops on Register ...	93

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	*Number*
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901)	4
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 5, 1901)—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector	1
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	1
Other	1
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) in use at end of the year	—
	7